

THE VICTIM OF A BOYCOTT.

B-MAYOR JOHN F. DWYER'S BUSINESS IN AMSTERDAM RUINED.

The Manufacturers Withdraw Their Trade Because He Contested W. Barlow Dunlap's Seat in the Assembly of 1891—Person and Threats Were Used to Induce Him to Withdraw from the Contest.

AMSTERDAM, N. Y., Dec. 2.—The Hon. John F. Dwyer, a plumber and steam fitter, is the victim of a boycott that has been urged against him by the manufacturers of this city for the past two years. The boycott was started when he refused to consent to the conditions which ousted W. Barlow Dunlap from the Legislature in 1891. The election of 1890 left Mr. Dunlap a fair plurality on the face of the official returns over Dwyer. The morning following the election the pastor ballots marked with lead pencil and a shoemaker's punch, were discovered, together with the men who were paid for voting them. The marks were so individualized that each well-known pliable voter who was compelled to tell what he knew indicated the manner in which his ballot was marked, and the identical ballot was found in many cases attached to the inspectors' returns. The evidence was so conclusive that the Democratic County Committee began an investigation. Mr. Dwyer was not the instigator of the contest; his friends started it, and in high places were confronted with criminal prosecution as a result of the investigation. Mr. Dwyer was privately and publicly perturbed to stop it. The manufacturers of the city were especially importunate, and John Sanford made a personal effort to stop the contest. The Legislature was close, and every vote was needed to elect a United States senator.

At length the *Daily Democrat*, the manufacturer's organ, published an editorial article warning Mr. Dwyer not to continue the contest he had begun. It advised him that he would conserve his personal interests by stopping it. The manufacturers were agitated over the proposed McKinley bill, and although the election of Sanford to Congress could not possibly be affected by the Dwyer-Dunlap contest, they took stringent measures to head it off. A personal friend called upon Mr. Dwyer. They had known each other for years. He assured the contestants that if he would put an end to the contest, they would be allowed to have his election to the Legislature the following year. He convinced Mr. Dwyer that he represented the manufacturers, who latter declined to con-

"Very well," was the reply, "the manufacturers will withdraw their patronage from you. They will not buy from you again."

Their patronage was gradually withdrawn until, as Mr. Dwyer said today, every manufacturer had balanced his account.

"It is the first time in forty years," he continued, "that they have all withdrawn their patronage from me. It is the first time since I have been in politics that I have been the victim of a boycott against me. I have not received altogether from the manufacturers of this city any business agreement or contract for five years." The reason, he said, is that Mr. V. Morris, son, one of them told me that the boycotters could not prevail upon them to be dictated to by nobody, as to where they should send their work. Formerly I had running accounts with all the manufacturers, but business for all of them for thirty years, and never a year passed that I didn't send a bill to some of them, or to some of them, or to some of them. Now, however, there \$50 will more than cover the aggregate of business I have had from all the shops except that Morris shop, and also in Albany, and in Utica, and more or less disaster resulted in consequence of the threats that were made at the time the contract was in progress.

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